



# August 2005

70, YEMEN. Early last week, Vladimir, UA4WHX, informed OPDX that he is currently in Sana'a, Yemen. He stated that he has "met a number of people responsible for issuing licenses and the Spectrum Management of the Yemeni government, well as the deputy minister of the Ministry of Telecommunications and Information Technology. Vladimir is the following:

1. Not a single amateur radio license has ever been issued in the past 20 years. The authenticity of the license is a matter of the ministry concerning the fact.
2. Amateur radio has never been legalized in Yemen. "PERIOD" No legal base, no acceptance so far, but the ministry is sincerely interested in promoting the hobby. They know about it and do plan to pass laws for it as soon as possible.
3. When King Hussein of Jordan was in Yemen, he requested a license which he did not get....
4. The ministry has tried to authorize amateur radio activity in a few times, but the attempts have always got stuck at the Ministry of Interior offices being hindered by power.

How can you help get women on the ground to write letters to both ministries and explain the following:

- Why amateur radio is good (Explain the benefits).
- Why there is no danger to their country's security.
- He recommends sending some printed materials about

radio.

The above information is just a small portion of what Vladimir wanted to relay to the ham community. He wrote another (longer) E-mail to OPDX over the past weekend which has more details and suggestions to get Yemen on the air. OPDX InterNet Subscribers will receive this E-mail (complete and unedited; with addresses and phone numbers) as an additional bulletin.

## Soap Box— Words from our President



Are band conditions great or what? I just checked the numbers and they were I= 72, A= 22, K= 4, with numbers like these next years Clipperton award winner will probably be able to do it with only working K, VE, and XE. To add to the bad band conditions I could not even turn the computer on last night let alone a radio as we had a big thunderstorm sit on top the home QTH. Fun to watch but it can be hard on equipment.

It's hot and humid this month but we have several things coming up that should be fun for all concerned. First on August 21<sup>st</sup> we have the Summer Bash which will be held at the QTH of K6NA. You can find directions etc. on the SCDXC web site. Then on August 27 we will have our kickoff meeting for Visalia 2006. Carl, WU6D will once again be handling the job of chairman and he would like anyone interested to please set this date aside and attend the meeting. My wife Linda kindly agreed, so the meeting will be held at the N6DHz QTH. You can get all the details and directions on the web at [www.scdxc.org/visalia/meeting.html](http://www.scdxc.org/visalia/meeting.html).

You will also have to clear a weekend in August or early September to clean the shack and garage and get all you great stuff ready because the September meeting will be our annual Anchors Away night. We always have a lot of fun at these meetings. Who wouldn't have fun to seeing so called friends bidding their buddies up on that special item and I can't wait to see what great piece of equipment Sharon, K6IRD will buy to store in Wayne's shop.

Last it looks like we will see an end to the code requirement for all classes of license. So this will

*(Continued on page 8)*

## de the Veep

Hello to all from Bubbdom (La Habra). Here's the latest.....Its HOT and DX stinks! OK, we all know that. We can do our best to keep cool, but there is nothing we can do about propagation. I keep listening and tuning the bands and have had a few openings and got some band fillers



A few lucky ones, (K6IRD), are getting new countries (HZ) when I cannot even hear them. You go Sharon! So to all the pundits who say there is nothing to turn the radio on for, thanks, it will be easier for my peanut whistle station to get through. Ya never know, I just might get that HZ myself for a new one. I think I will buy a Lottery ticket too.

The July meeting was well attended and everyone had a good time. I always enjoy looking around and see the laughter and conversations. The program Ray Benny, N6VR did on IOTA was fun and informative. The behind the scene goings on and trials and tribulations are a good look at what it takes for a successful DXpedition. We also had a visitor that joined the club. Welcome to Richard Silva WA6ES.

The speaker for next month will be our own Bob, N6OX. He made a trip to Japan and had a get together with a Japanese DX Club and met with JA3CZY, Elvin. Elvin arranged a lunch with "Mr. ICOM" and they spent 4 hours with him. I am sure the pictures and stories will be great.

So, till next month, Bubba says...Good DX and 73

## Next General Meeting

*The SCDXC meets the second Thursday of the month. Our next meeting will be held August 11, 2005 at Syd Kronenthal Park in Culver City. The park is located 4 blocks west of La Cienega Blvd. and 2 blocks south of Washington Blvd. From the 10 Freeway exit La Cienega south to Washington Blvd. Turn right (west) 4 blocks to McManus Ave (it's La Cienega Ave to the right, McManus to the left). Turn left (south) 2 blocks to the Park. The street dead-ends at the parking lot. Please do not park in the school lot.*

**Program for August will be BOB, N6OX trip to JA**  
*See ya there!*



## the secretary's ramblings

The meeting in July was a great success, from my point of view anyway. You see I finally got my voice recorder to work correctly. Cause I bought a new one. HI. I had an idea that might be nice and helpful. You know, take pictures of guests and new members. Well it worked. This month we have a picture of people we can get introduced to. In this bulletin there will be a section of...WHO'S NEW AND OTHERS. Harv said he could use the print and would give his ...to get more to print. Ok, now for the meeting. Jim opened with our friend Jack IRO and his sentence to 120 days in county jail with 3 yrs probation. Maybe the feds can do better. Oh well, tune in next month.

On to the introductions, Ira said Radio Dan set him up REMOTE and he had earned the CQ Field award. Congratulations. That should keep the neighbors happy. We had a new member, Rick, WA6ES and AC6AJ Lee is back on the air after 10 months. Radio Dan had his hands full there too. Dan said he didn't have much time to work DX, I wonder why. Don't forget the granddaughter and friend, Sharon's WILD WOMAN in training, Lauren and Caitlin. Larry introduced Jeff's new book and got it autographed. Our own pro in our mist. Congratulations Jeff. Maybe I could get some pointers on how to write this column. Ernie has now reached 303. Jolly good show. Must be his new Alpha...Arnie N6HC, talked about Log Book of the World. Still seems to be some confusion on how to use and update etc. AND comedy hour. Wed. night on 80 Mtr. I don't know what frequency or time but I hear it's a hoot. Featuring the IRD's and friends. Keep your eye out for the Hatfield's and McCoy's (Ernie, N6HY and Arne, N6HC) who is going to get 9 band DXCC first? Keep tuned.

The program this month (IOTA in Mexico) was well done by our own, long time ago, Ray N6VR, who now lives in Ventura. I have been to Baja Many times from La Paz to T-Town. On motorcycle end to end and don't ever remember seeing so many Islands. Maybe I should watch where I'm going. Ray showed pictures of the Islands of Ascension, St. Inez, San Marcos, and San Rafael. Ray gave a good lesson in acquiring licenses. Somebody on the inside is by far the best advice. A good presentation of trials and hardship. Seems like that is a must for all DX expeditions.

Prizes again were great and our Master prize getter, Sharon got first pick. Congratulations to all winners.

Next month Bob, N6OX and his trip to the 610 club in Japan. Any one else who would like to see some of the Orient could go to the first Asia/Pacific DX Convention in Nov.

Summer bash at Glenn's, K6NA. Aug. 21. See the web site for directions.

Easy Reading and gud DX. Steve, W6NRQ. TILL NEXT TIME 73.

## VISALIA KICKOFF MEETING

NEW ADDRESS FOR W6 QSL  
BUREAU

U.S. 6TH DISTRICT INCOMING BUREAU:  
P.O. BOX 970  
FAIRFAX, CA 94978-0970

We will be having the Visalia 2006 kickoff meeting on Saturday August 27, 2005 starting at 12:00pm. The meeting will be held at the QTH of N6DHZ. We are keeping things simple this time around and Pizza will be supplied for lunch. XYL/YL's are as usual very welcome. You can find an interactive map and directions at <http://www.scdxc.org/visalia/meeting.html> We look forward to seeing everyone at the meeting.

## Propagation August 2005

by Shel, W6EL



These predictions for the five prime HF bands show the times when propagation is expected to be best from Los Angeles to several locations that are expected to be active during the coming month.

Other times are possible, but with weaker signals or lower probability. Openings are not expected on bands that are not listed. A solar flux of **100**, corresponding to a sunspot

number of **50**, and an average geomagnetic field are assumed.

Sunrise/sunset times are at the DX location. All times are UTC.

Good luck and good DX from Shel, W6EL.

VP9 Bermuda - 8/13 to 8/14 - Beam 77 degrees

Sunrise/sunset (on 8/14) 0947/2300

80: 0500-0900.

40: 0200-1030.

20: 2230-0530 and 1230-1400.

YI Iraq - 8/13 to 8/14 - Beam 15 degrees

Sunrise/sunset (on 8/14) 0230/1546

20: 0130-0430.

SV5 Dodecanese - 8/13 to 8/20 - Beam 27 degrees

Sunrise/sunset (on 8/17) 0334/1654

20: 0330-0630.

V2 Antiqua - 8/15 to 8/24 - Beam 93 degrees

Sunrise/sunset (on 8/20) 0955/2226

80: 0430-0900.

40: 0230-1000.

20: 0000-0600 and 1130-1200.

15: 1600-0230.

IS Sardinia - 8/18 to 8/29 - Beam 37 degrees

Sunrise/sunset (on 8/24) 0449/1803

40: 0300-0430.

20: 0500-0700.

TY Benin - 8/13 to 9/6 - Beam 65 degrees

Sunrise/sunset (on 8/25) 0546/1758

80: 0330-0400.

40: 0200-0600.

20: 2300-0400.

15: 1930-0130.

VK9C Cocos-Keeling - 8/18 to 9/1 - Beam 296 degrees

Sunrise/sunset (on 8/25) 2344/1125

40: 1200-1300.

20: 1400-1530 and around 0930.

FK New Caledonia - 8/19 to 8/24 - Beam 244 degrees

Sunrise/sunset (on 8/22) 1918/0640

80: 0900-1300.

40: 0730-1330.

20: 0500-1100 and 1230-1500.

15: 0100-0800 and 1900-2000.

10: 2000-0300.

The SDDXC Invites you to  
Summer Bash 2005

Sunday August 21, 2005

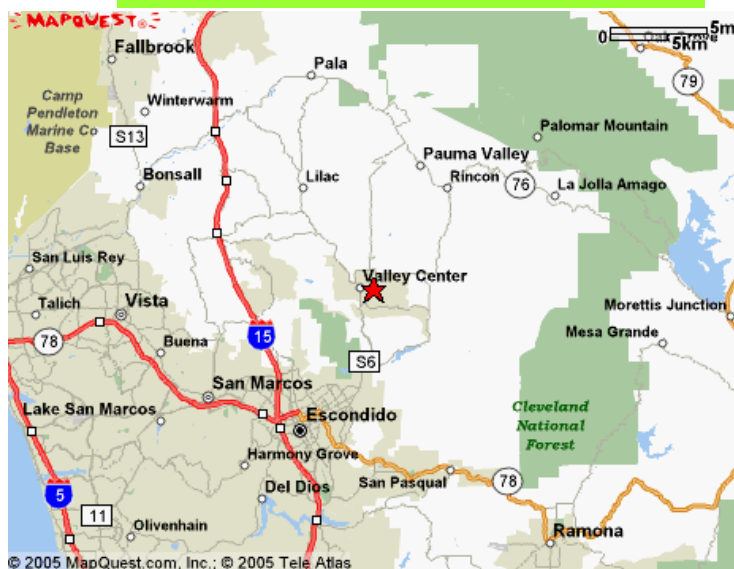
01:00pm to 05:00pm

This year's Summer Bash will be held at the QTH of:

Glenn Rattmann, K6NA

14250 Calle De Vista

Valley Center, CA 92082





# Photos de July Meeting



"Ray N6VR IOTA presentation. Nice job Ray, come back soon."



" Rick Silva  
WA6ES our newest  
member from Long  
Beach.  
Welcome aboard."



" Wild women in training says  
Sharon. Lauren (left and  
friend Caitlin (right)"



"Frenzy at the ticket counter  
buying tickets for all those great  
prizes."



"Wayne and Sharon with Lauren  
thier grand daughter."



# The Barrel

de WB6RSE, Steve

## Visiting DXers in Europe

This past May, my wife Nancy and I and another couple, traveled to Europe. I had planned on bringing a QRP CW rig but scuttled the idea at the last minute. Conditions were lousy on HF with no sign they'd improve during our trip whose primary purpose was sightseeing. My operating time would have been limited anyway. And so my suitcase — always a challenge — was a bit lighter.

Operating or not, I'd decided it might be interesting to visit some DXers in Europe. I'd sent a few emails and as luck would have it, I was able to have eyeball QSOs in both Barcelona and Paris.

Núria, EA3WL, and Josep, EA3BT along with their young son Marc, live in Vilanova, about 40 minutes by train south of Barcelona. They had visited Al, K6YRA, and Bunny, W6BUN, here in Los Angeles a few years ago but Nancy and I were unable to meet them. Núria and Josep are both on staff at the University of Barcelona. Over the years they've managed to plan their vacations to operate from some semi-rare locations: 8Q, D6, TN, C5 along with VP2M and FM. Núria gave me TN for a new band on 12m in 2002. We had a good laugh when I told her how I'd worked her. She'd been working JA's only but I'd managed to sneak in when she slipped and said "QRZ?" forgetting the "JA only." The interesting details of their travels are on their website:

<http://www.ea3bt.com/>

They were most generous with their time, spending the better part of a day with us, inviting us and our friends to their home and showing us around their town of Vilanova and a nearby seaside resort, Sitges. They took us to a fantastic Tapas bar, which was a very unique experience. The picture was taken in their shack on the top floor of their home.

We left Spain and went to Italy for a short stay in Venice, and then on to the Sorrento coast. I had traded emails with DXer, Max, I8NHJ, but unfortunately we weren't able to meet.

Then it was off to Paris — art, history and great food — but smokers seemingly everywhere! I'd exchanged emails with Flo, F5CWU, another active DXer. Flo is a high speed train engineer. At age 24, he's been quite active both on DXpeditions and in contests. His latest activity was from FG where I worked him on quite a few bands including 160m. His website tells the story:

<http://www.f5cwu.net/>

Flo lives in Tours to the south of Paris. One evening he took a train some 200 miles to meet us for dinner! And he delivered my 160m FG QSL in person, as you can see in the picture.

The next time you travel abroad, you might want to consider visiting some local hams. It certainly made our trip much more interesting and fun.

Thank you Núria and Josep and Flo. We had a great time!

See you in the pileups.

73, .Steve WB6RSE



Flo, F5CWU, and Steve, WB6RSE, exchange QSLs in Paris.



Steve WB6RSE, flanked by Núria, EA3WL, and Josep, EA3BT in their shack in Vilanova, Spain.

# More Antenna Experiments

By Paul Stevenson AD6PC

In this age of *Uber* Technology rigs like the IC 7800 and software driven radios, the last frontier for the do-it-your-selver, the home brewer in Ham Radio is either QRP, antennas, or both. I am an unrepentant home brewer. I'd rather build transmitters than operate on the air, a troublesome vice for a DXer, Farewell to thee, Honor Roll.

For a week I noticed a long piece of 300 ohm twin lead laying in the alley. You remember twin lead. It was once used for transmission line on home TV antennas. You remember TV antennas, how we got "Howdy Doody", "Have Gun, Will Travel", and "The Honeymooners" back before digital cable, satellite dishes, and TV Land.

Since I'm not dirt phobic, like my yuppie neighbors, it fell upon me to toss that twin lead in the trash. If you've ever looked into any old issues of the ARRL Handbook, You might be surprised to learn that Novices on tight budgets made folded dipoles for eighty meters and up with this stuff. They even worked some DX with it. I've read volumes on antenna theory and balanced transmission lines, antenna tech from the Pleistocene Era of Ham Radio, but never tried to put this theory into practice. I was wondering with the HF band seeming deader than Francisco Franco, Juan Peron, and Joe Stalin combined, that, maybe ...a twenty meter dipole mounted horizontally would work better than my mobile whip vertical on the patio fence. So I collected the stuff and hauled it to the shack

I should have acted sooner because that twin lead had been run over by every SUV on the Westside. It sported gobs of thirty year old exterior house paint. Spots of exposed conductor were as numerous as hanging chads in a Florida election. However it was available for my favorite price ...Free. By the time I eliminated all the damaged footage I had enough left for a folded dipole on six meters and ten feet of transmission line. Almost every new radio on the market today includes six meters. Every well funded DXpedition is equipped for six meters. A store bought antenna would look better that ratty old twin lead, but that's money that could be better spent on a Ducati 999R motorcycle. (A one hundred eighty mile an hour top speed! Can an IC7800 do that?)

Forty years ago Popular Electronics ran a construction article for a Six Meter AM transceiver using a single 6EZ8 triple triode tube built on a 7x7x2 chassis. The author claimed he could work stations up and down the west coast with this rig (when 6 was open.) Sounded like fun to me. Since I acquired my Icom 706 I made a few contacts on Six with DX hot spots like Upland and Diamond Bar. Would a six meter dipole work better than a vertical? Only one way to find out. As Doctor Emmet Brown would say, "Its all in the name of science."

This afternoon I hung the Six Meter folded dipole from the rafters in my shack with string, attached the transmission line to the balanced line terminals on my tuner, turned down the power output on the Icom and tuned up on a vacant spot. The antenna loaded up better than some of the dummy loads I've seen, almost a perfect one to one SWR. On 50.125 I heard a station calling CQ in the ARRL VHF / UHF contest. I cranked the power on the 706 back up and called him. We exchanged Maidenhead squares then he asked if I could get on Two meters. I have a 2 Meter Squalo that only sees action on Field Day and VHF contests. So I tuned to 144.180 per his instructions and again we swapped Maidenhead squares. Next he asks if I could get on UHF.

"Sorry, I don't have a UHF antenna."

He asks, "How about a rubber duck?"

Any one who wants work me that bad must be obliged. Sometimes I get lucky and its somebody like XT2WP, EA8BH, or T32WW.

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(Continued from page 7)

## More Antenna Experiments

I connected the dual band mobile antenna I use to receive the Packet DX spotter to my Icom. I had the antenna laying horizontal, 3 extra DB. After calling him back on 2 to agree on a frequency, I heard him calling me on 432.120. He gets another QSO point and a band multiplier. He asked about 1296. I have receiving capability on 1296 but the interface for my transmit converter is unfinished. Maybe next year.

So class, what have we learned from this? You can make a functioning antenna from junk twin lead. They're not spinning fairy tales in those antenna handbooks. A disadvantage of open wire feed lines over coax cable becomes blatantly obvious. My Kenwood Stereo was transformed into a modulation monitor every time I transmitted. Notice: don't run more than 100 watts to an indoor antenna. It's a fire hazard. If I had known earlier that the station I worked was in Palos Verdes I would have turned the power down to QRP levels. I also I logged my first SSB QSO on the 432 Megahertz band. I'm planning to add a second element to make the 6 Meter dipole a beam. Its all ready aimed at Japan and Siberia. Its more satisfying, I think, to work SSB on VHF and UHF than FM. One nice thing about VHF / UHF Contests. Occasionally you find yourself the subject of the pileup and get a clue as to what its like to be the DX instead of the DX chaser. Now to find enough twin lead for an Eighty Meter dipole.

And if any of you have a copy of the June 1962 (?) Popular Electronics article about the 6EZ8 6 Meter AM transceiver, let me know. I still want to build it.

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(Continued from page 2)

probably be the last newsletter we put out as we will **De The Prez**

be dissolving the club and all our radios will be sold at the September meeting after all this is the end of amateur radio. Right? No this is not the end and just like the introduction of SSB, and the 5wpm code amateur radio will survive this too. The FCC did not outlaw code, you don't have to turn in or register your paddle with the National Coalition to Ban Code Keys. You simply will not have a code requirement for a new or upgraded license. The hobby will continue to have new licensees who will learn code and use it. We will still have new first class CW operators and new lids and slims just like we've always had. So in the upcoming months when this subject comes up and is debated let's keep in mind this is a hobby and in the grand scheme of things in the real world it is a minor issue. Verbal knives can be thrown at [n6dhz@scdxc.org](mailto:n6dhz@scdxc.org).

73 and good DX (okay any DX)

### SAN DIEGO DXC Elects Officers

Elected for the 2005-2006 year were:

President: Jim Stevenson, W6YI  
Vice President: Paul Dorey, WN6K  
Secretary/Treasurer: Harry Hodges, W6YOO  
Directors:  
Gayle Olson, K6GO  
Wayne Zimmerman, NN6R

### FOOD and FUN at the Annual Summer Bash

The San Diego DX Club will host the Annual Summer Bash this year. All members of the So Cal DX Club are invited.

This is a FIVE STAR rated event and we guarantee a good time



## Who We Are

The SCDXC Newsletter is published monthly by the Southern California DX Club and is e-mailed to all club members.


Please notify the editor if you do not receive your newsletter, have a change of address, or have found an error.

Please direct all submissions to the editor.

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## FLASH ARRL RESPONSE

**From:** Moore, Bill, NC1L  
[mailto:[nc1l@arrl.org](mailto:nc1l@arrl.org)]  
**Sent:** Monday, July 25, 2005 6:56  
AM  
**To:** Edgar Brown, N6OU  
**Subject:** RE: Yemen

Hi Edgar:

Wayne and I discussed this and several of the 70 operations that have occurred in the last 20 years have submitted documentation entirely sufficient for ARRL purposes. We are NOT, however going to get sucked into a debate that requires us to prove the negative. Anyone is welcome to approach us with information that positively refutes any of the documentation that we have received over the years. We haven't received any such information, and somehow, I doubt this is possible. To us, that pretty much characterizes the claim.

Bill Moore NC1L  
DXCC Branch Manager

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION, New or Renewal

Return to membership chairman: Larry Mallek 2528 Britain Way, Anaheim CA, 92801-1413

CALL \_\_\_\_\_ NAME \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

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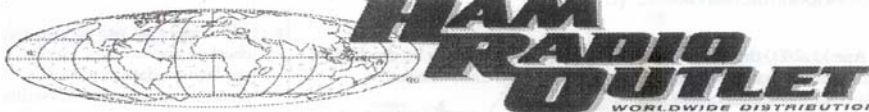
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